

Docket No. F-7899

Ser. No. 10/630,429

REMARKS

The above amendments and following remarks are responsive to the Office Action of January 25, 2005. Reconsideration of the application and a notice of allowance are earnestly solicited.

Claims 7-18 are pending in this application and Applicant expresses appreciation to the Examiner for determining that: Claim 8 has been allowed; claims 9, 11 and 12 have been found to contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten to include the limitations of the claims from which they depend and to overcome rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; claims 13, 14, 17 have been found to contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten to include the limitations of the claims from which they depend; and Claim 18 has been found to contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten to overcome rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The drawings have been objected to and claims 9, 11, 12 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because the claims recite that the hardness of the inner peripheral corner peripheral region is equal to or less than that of at least the peripheral region of the raceway surface of the inner ring. The Examiner states that the "equal to" designation is not enabled by the application with illustrates in Figure 6 and discloses on page 10 only the "less than"

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designation. Applicant has removed the "equal to" designation from claims 9, 11, 12 and 18 to overcome the drawing objections and the claim rejections under section 112, second paragraph.

Along with overcoming the claim rejections under section 112, second paragraph, Applicant has amended claims 9, 11-14 and 17 to include the limitations of the claims from which they depend. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 9, 11-14, 17 and 18 are now allowable.

Claims 7, 10, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kashiwagi et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,398,419) as modified by Bertelli (U.S. Patent No. 5,536,075) where the Examiner acknowledges that Kashiwagi fails to teach, and asserts that Bertelli teaches, a hardness of a peripheral region of an inner peripheral corner of the ring that is set to a value capable of plastically absorbing a load at the time of caulking. Applicant has cancelled claims 7, 10, 15 and 16 to moot the rejections thereto.

Applicant respectfully requests a three month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. The fee of \$1020.00 for the extension is provided for in the charge authorization presented in the PTO Form 2038, Credit Card Payment form, provided herewith.

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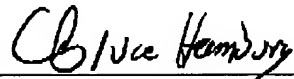
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In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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